

Boxes were stacked up everywhere! Kevin looked around the living room. They had moved into a new house, far away from where he used to live. He looked at all of the boxes. He wanted to find his baseball glove. Mother had put names on each box. He saw "kitchen dishes," "towels," "forks and knives," but no box had "Kevin" written on it.

Kevin walked around the new house. It was so different from the old house. It was painted blue but Kevin liked white houses. It also had an odd smell. Kevin was unhappy in the big house. It had a basement that made Kevin afraid. Maybe wild animals lived down there.

Then Kevin heard Dad moaning as he lifted a large box. Kevin followed him upstairs into the bedroom. Dad dropped the box with a loud thud! "Let me give you a hand, Dad," said Kevin. "No, thank you, son," said Dad. "I do not want you to hurt yourself. These boxes are very heavy and you could drop one on your foot. Besides, your mother would not like it if you broke something. Go outside and play in the yard. You may see a new friend."

Kevin walked outside in the front yard. He was having a very bad day. He missed his friends. He missed his old school. Then he saw a baseball bat in the yard next door. He smiled and hoped that there was a boy next door he could play with. Maybe the boy liked to play baseball. Kevin wondered whether they would go to the same school. He was happy and raced up to the door and rang the bell.

The door opened and there stood a girl with long, red hair. "Hello," she said, "who are you?" "Hi, I am Kevin, the new boy next door," he said. "Do you have any brothers I can play with?"

"No," she said. "I do not have any brothers or sisters." Kevin's eyes grew big. "I saw a baseball bat in your yard." The girl said, "It is my bat. I play baseball."

They walked out into the yard. The girl threw the ball to Kevin many times but he could not hit it. She was a great pitcher! "Will you show me around school on Monday?" asked Kevin. "Sure," his new friend said. Kevin knew he would like living in his new house.

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